3: Hinder G-5 (1933-1942) 1944 AF15 East China AF15

THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT of the Shanghai Municipal Council exercised constant and vigorous supervision over the food supplies of the Settlement. Both incoming livestock and meat supplies were carefully inspected, the erection of a modern abattoir by the Council in the last decade having materially contributed to a sound meat supply. Dairies increased in number, and, through the efforts of the authorities, improved in quality. The sale of milk was under strict control. Positive measures were taken to induce dairies to use modern procedures. Market produce was inspected daily, both on its way into the city from outlying farms and after it had been placed on sale; food vendors on the streets and all food shops and stalls were subjected to licence and supervised. Bakeries also came in for close attention. In short, all that could be done to reduce food contamination, and hence to limit the incidence of germ-borne disease, was done by the authorities.

IN THE LAST DECADE interest has been growing in China in the study of nutrition. Much useful scientific knowledge has been accumulated, particularly through the work of scientific investigators associated with the Henry Lester Institute of Medical Research, the Peking Union Medical College, and Yenching University. The existence in Shanghai of large camps of destitute refugees after the outbreak of hostilities in 1937 gave scientists a sad but useful opportunity to study the results of various minimal diets. Little of the available knowledge had received popular attention in the city.

Reference has been made to the fact that workers in many industrial undertakings, and indeed in many commercial enterprises, were housed and provided with food where they worked.[3] In larger plants food might be bought, cooked and served by the factory. In smaller ones the supply of food to workers was undertaken by a *pao fan-ti*, who delivered to factories food cooked elsewhere. Remuneration has been, then, for many workers partly in food. Under these circumstances it is important that a knowledge of nutrition, and of the effect of malnutrition on the health of employees, should be general. There has been a general acceptance of the obvious fact that if workers are not properly fed—and improper feeding is commonly associated only with insufficient food

[3] See Chapter IV.